Global Emergency Observation Warning and Relief Network

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The Global Emergency Observation Warning and Relief Network is a proposed concept that optimizes the use of existing remote-sensing resources and data-processing centers linked together via a computer network and communications satellites to perform the task of providing global disaster management support. Its development is motivated by a significant number of recent devastating disasters and the United Nations proclamation of the 1990's as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

In this study, MSFC developed information requirements and investigated the remote-sensing data needs of the disaster management community. A broad survey of current and planned projects and programs that support disaster management efforts, both in applications and research, was performed to assess what gaps exist, determine where NASA could best contribute to disaster mitigation activities, and avoid any potential duplication of effort in future NASA studies and projects. An extensive data base with over 430 entries was developed cataloguing the findings of the survey. A set of recommendations for the Agency was developed based on the results of the requirements study and the project survey. These addressed suggested courses of action for future support of hazards research and management efforts and how the Agency might interface with other domestic and international efforts. The findings were compiled in a white paper delivered to the Oceans, Solid Earth, and Natural Hazards Branch in the Science Division of the Office of Mission to Planet Earth.

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